

ESSENTIALS OF THE ART OF LIVING

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### I. Work.

1. God created us and adapted us to work. Gen. 2:15; 3:19; 2 Thess 3:10
2. We should be happy in our work or it will be drudgery.
3. We should follow Christ. Mt. 20:28 - *came to minister*
4. Idleness exposes a person to all kinds of imaginations, worries, and fears.

### II. Love.

1. There must be someone to love, but some are too selfish ever to love anyone but themselves.
2. The teachings of Jesus take consideration this need. Mt. 22:37-39

*Cor 13*

### III. An acceptance of self.

1. We must accept the fact that different persons have different talents Mt 25:14-30.
2. We must accept what we have, even though we may have inferior talents and severe handicaps, and use them rather than complain over what we do not have.
3. We should resign ourselves to things that happen to us. Phil. 4:11
4. But never content with what we are. Phil. 4:13-14. Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915) wrote 8500 hymns though she was blind from the age of six weeks.

### IV. Self-examination.

1. Man should prove himself. 1 Cor. 11:28
2. Try your own selves. 2 Cor. 13:5
3. Let each man prove his own work. Gal. 6:4.
4. Enables us to see ourselves as God and others see us; then we can do something about it.

Oh wad some power the giftie gie Us  
To see ourselves as others see us;  
It wad frae manie a blunder free us.

To A Louse, Robert Burns, 1786

5. Focuses criticism on self. We need this lest we become too critical of others. Mt 7:3-5. Some are so critical that they cannot enjoy living.

### V. Cultivate an interest in others.

1. Looking each to own things. Phi. 2:4
2. Bear one another's burdens. Gal. 6:2
3. Share emotions with others. Rom. 12:15 - *Rejoice, Weep*
4. Golden rule. Mt. 7:12
5. Being self-centered robs many of happiness.

### VI. Live life a day at a time.

1. Be not anxious for the morrow. Mt. 6:34
2. The only way it can be lived, because yesterday is gone, and tomorrow has not come and may never come. Jas. 4:13-14
3. Many try to carry the weight of the future and all the burdens of the past.
4. We cannot change the past, and the best preparation for the future is to do well at the present.

### Conclusion:

1. We were not created to be sad, forlorn, depressed, etc.
2. Man was put in a beautiful place, with all things needed.
3. But, SIN entered and sadness, death, thorns, thistles, etc.
4. Jesus comes upon the scene and re-establishes a relationship between fallen man and Jehovah God.
5. Now, we can once again experience the JOY OF LIVING, living pleasing unto God
6. Be **RIGHT WITH GOD** and **BE HAPPY**.